

Missio Dei Fellowship exists to glorify God by delighting in Him and making Him known through the proclamation of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

God is Our Salvation, Pt 3

Selected Passages

Keywords: Acts 7, Redemption, Patience of God, Love of God, Gospel, Salvation, Deliverance

PowerPoint Presentation included: none

SermonAudio Blurb: Building off of Stephen's speech in which he showed how Israel has spurned the many saviors sent by God, the greatest being Jesus Himself. Today we will see how the Old Testament describes and paints the picture of what salvation actually is and in doing so prepare our hearts all the more for that day of salvation in Jesus Christ. In this message we explore the rich terminology that the New Testament uses to enlarge and describe salvation.

I. Introduction.

- A. We come again to the one subject we must never tire of knowing and understanding, the work of salvation by God toward sinners.
 - 1. Last message I sought to show you the rich vocabulary the Old Testament uses to describe salvation. We saw that salvation was much bigger than simply forgiveness of sin. It included a rescuing from danger and enemies and a hope for a renewed creation.
 - 2. Today we have the privilege to look at several of the words that are used to describe this great work of salvation but now in the New Testament. And you will find that the same points are made here as in the Old Testament.
- B. For sake of time and to help those where who are newer to using a bible I will put each passage up on the screen. For those who are able, make sure you turn to them regardless. And as always, I encourage you to use a physical bible to help you mark in it as you learn.

II. God is our salvation.

- A. I want to remind you that to understand salvation in the bible requires us to pull away from the tendency to think of it in a small, limited manner.
- B. We saw in the Old Testament that the idea of salvation covers a lot of ground and a lot of different aspects. Two key take-aways:
 - 1. First, salvation is seen in a holistic manner.
 - 2. Second, salvation is something that must first take place before obedience or worship. Consider David's words, '*Save me, that I may observe thy testimonies*' (Ps 119:146).

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- a. We obey because we were first saved. We love and we worship because He first saved us.
 - b. This is utterly opposite from what you will hear from most religious people and institutions. Even in the Church this is so often lost.
3. Today we will go to the New Testament and see how it continues to build off of the Old Testament to show a grand and gloriously full salvation.
- C. Key terms related to salvation and deliverance.
1. “Save”
 - a. Save (*sozo*).
 - (1) Basic meanings are: “save, preserve from harm, rescue.”
 - (2) Matthew 1:21 *"And she will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for it is He who will save His people from their sins."*
 - (3) Matthew 14:30, *But seeing the wind, he became afraid, and beginning to sink, he cried out, saying, "Lord, save me!"*
 - (4) Romans 5:9-10, *Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.*
 - (5) Ephesians 2:5 *even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved).*
 - b. Savior (*sotair*).
 - (1) This is used in reference to the agent of salvation. So we are saved because there is a Savior. Often this specifically refers to God the Father but also applied directly to Jesus Christ.

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- (2) Titus 3:4-6 *But when the kindness of God our Savior and His love for mankind appeared, He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior*
- c. Salvation/deliverance (*soteria*).
 - (1) 2 Corinthians 7:10 *For the sorrow that is according to the will of God produces a repentance without regret, leading to salvation, but the sorrow of the world produces death.*
 - (2) Romans 13:11 *Do this, knowing the time, that it is already the hour for you to awaken from sleep; for now salvation is nearer to us than when we believed.*
 - d. These terms are inextricably bound up in the people and history of Israel. *Sozo* is the New Testament equivalent to the Old Testament *yasa*. And it carries all of what is included in its usage in the Old Testament.
 - (1) It is the essence of the name Joshua but, more importantly, Jesus. Joshua would deliver the people of Israel from their enemies and bring them into the safety of the promised land.
 - (2) Jesus will save the people from their sins and bring them into the New Heaven and Earth.
 - e. Salvation is also not a “dot” but a continuum where God is effectively working out salvation to the uttermost. This makes salvation effectively eschatological in nature. There is a new day coming and with it a new heavens and earth. It is at that time that the fulness of salvation will have been realized.
2. Deliver (*ruhomai*).
 - a. This term is used to speak of rescue from danger, save, rescue, deliver, preserve. It can refer to both a spiritual rescue or a physical one.

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- b. Romans 7:24 *Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death?*
 - c. 2 Corinthians 1:10 *who delivered us from so great a peril of death, and will deliver us, He on whom we have set our hope. And He will yet deliver us.*
3. Redeem.
- a. (*agoradzo*).
 - (1) This term is connected to the marketplace, the *agora* where goods are bought and sold. Sometimes it is used of the slave market but its basic meaning is purchased out of the marketplace.
 - (2) Galatians 3:13 *Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us-- for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree."*
 - (3) Revelation 5:9 *And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are You to take the book and to break its seals; for You were slain, and purchased for God with Your blood men from every tribe and tongue and people and nation."*
 - b. (*lutroō*).
 - (1) This word is explicitly a slave-market term that speaks of being purchased out of that condition and position. The meaning is to be redeemed or set free.
 - (2) Ephesians 1:7 *In Him [Jesus] we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace,*
 - (3) Ephesians 1:14 *who [HS] is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God's own possession, to the praise of His glory.*

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III. Conclusion.

- A. There are many other terms related to our salvation that are worthy of your attention.
 - 1. We will find passages that speak of how Christ's death averted the wrath of God and reconciled us to the Father. How we are no longer enemies of the Most High, but now friends and even children of God.
 - 2. In Jesus Christ we find forgiveness and pardon. The mercy of God flows forth through the sacrifice of His own Son toward us.
- B. But in this whole subject certain points starkly stand out:
 - 1. We are not deserving of salvation and rescue. We are active in our rejection of God as God. We are by nature, children of wrath.
 - 2. We are saved by the free/unfettered exercise of God's grace toward us. Nothing in our hands can we bring to curry favor from Him. We come empty handed, stained in our endless sins and receive grace.
 - 3. The giving of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is the highest and fullest demonstration of the love of God. No other place but the Cross is needed to see His love.
 - 4. Jesus said it best when He said these words, *"For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost"* (Luke 19:10)

Benediction

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you always. May you rest in the power of the Holy Spirit and may you rejoice in the love of the Father as it flows to you in every moment and in every way. Amen.